Archie 65TH ANNIVERSARY

THE WAY PAST "X"-CELLENT COMIC!

VIVA LAS V-EGG-AS!

#19

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SONIC X™

WHAT HAPPENS IN HERE STAYS IN HERE

DIRECT EDITION

TRANSPORTED BY CHAOS CONTROL ACROSS DIMENSIONS TO PLANET EARTH, SONIC THE HEDGEHOG HAS BECOME HIS ADOPTED HOME'S SUPERSONIC PROTECTOR. HE'S ALWAYS READY TO STOP THE WORLD-CONQUERING PLOTS OF HIS ARCH NEMESIS... THE DESPOTIC DOCTOR EGGMAN... AND EGGMAN'S HAND-MADE HENCHBOTS!

THE SUN HAS GONE DOWN OVER LAS VEGAS, AND THERE'S TROUBLE ON THE HORIZON!

GOLD RUSH

POP'S CASINO

OOOO-- SUCH PRETTY LIGHTS!

ENJOY THEM WHILE YOU CAN, BOKKUN. IF THE PEOPLE IN LAS VEGAS DON'T GIVE ME WHAT I WANT, I SHALL WIPE THIS CITY OFF THE FACE OF THE EARTH!

MUERTA! LAS VEGAS!

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DOCTOR EGGMAN, WHY HAVE WE COME TO LAS VEGAS?

BECAUSE IN LAS VEGAS, PEOPLE TRADE *LITTLE PLASTIC DISKS* FOR *CASH MONEY*, DECOE. WE'RE GOING TO STEAL A TRUCK FULL OF THESE DISKS AND USE THEM TO GET THE MONEY TO BUY THE PARTS I NEED TO BUILD MY NEXT GENERATION OF WORLD-CONQUERING ROBOTS!

WOULDN'T IT BE EASIER TO SELL YOUR OLD ROBOTS TO GET MONEY?

WHO'D BUY *YOU TWO*?

I DIDN'T MEAN *US*,

WHAT ARE THESE PLASTIC DISKS CALLED, BOSS?

"*POKER CHIPS*."

I *LOVE* POTATO CHIPS.

NOT *POTATO--POKER*. EARTHLINGS WIN AND LOSE THESE CHIPS PLAYING A NEEDLESSLY COMPLICATED CARD GAME CALLED "*POKER*."

HOW ARE YOU GOING TO CONVINCE THE PEOPLE TO GIVE YOU THEIR POKER CHIPS?

BY *FORCE*, NATURALLY.

I FOUND A WAREHOUSE FULL OF OLD, UNUSED *SLOT MACHINES*. WE SHALL USE THEM TO BUILD A ROBOT TO TERRORIZE THE LOCALS.

WHEN DID YOU HAVE TIME TO FIND THAT WAREHOUSE, DOCTOR EGGMAN?

WHILE YOU WERE AT THE CELINE DION CONCERT.

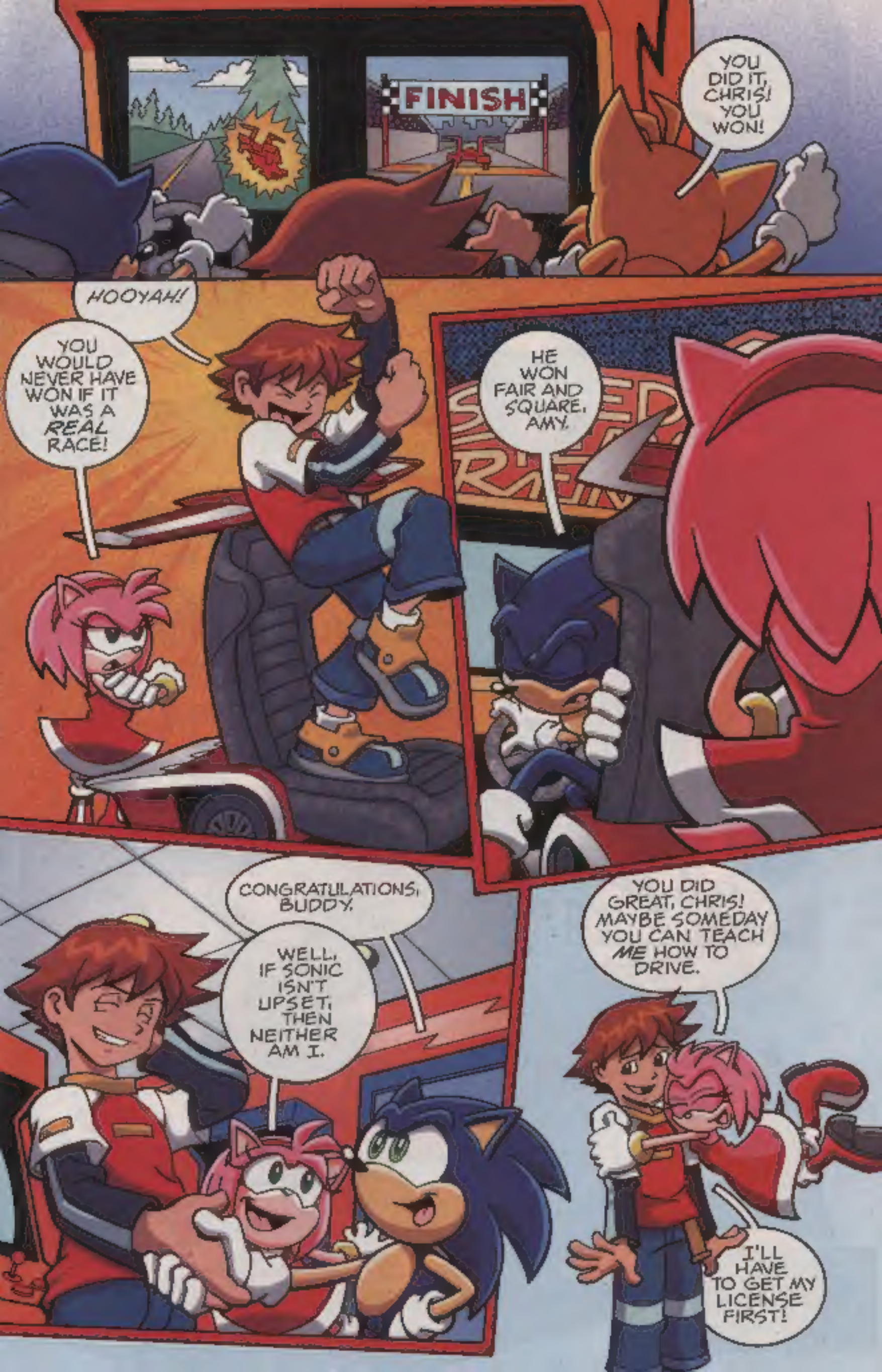
SHE'S *DREAMY*!

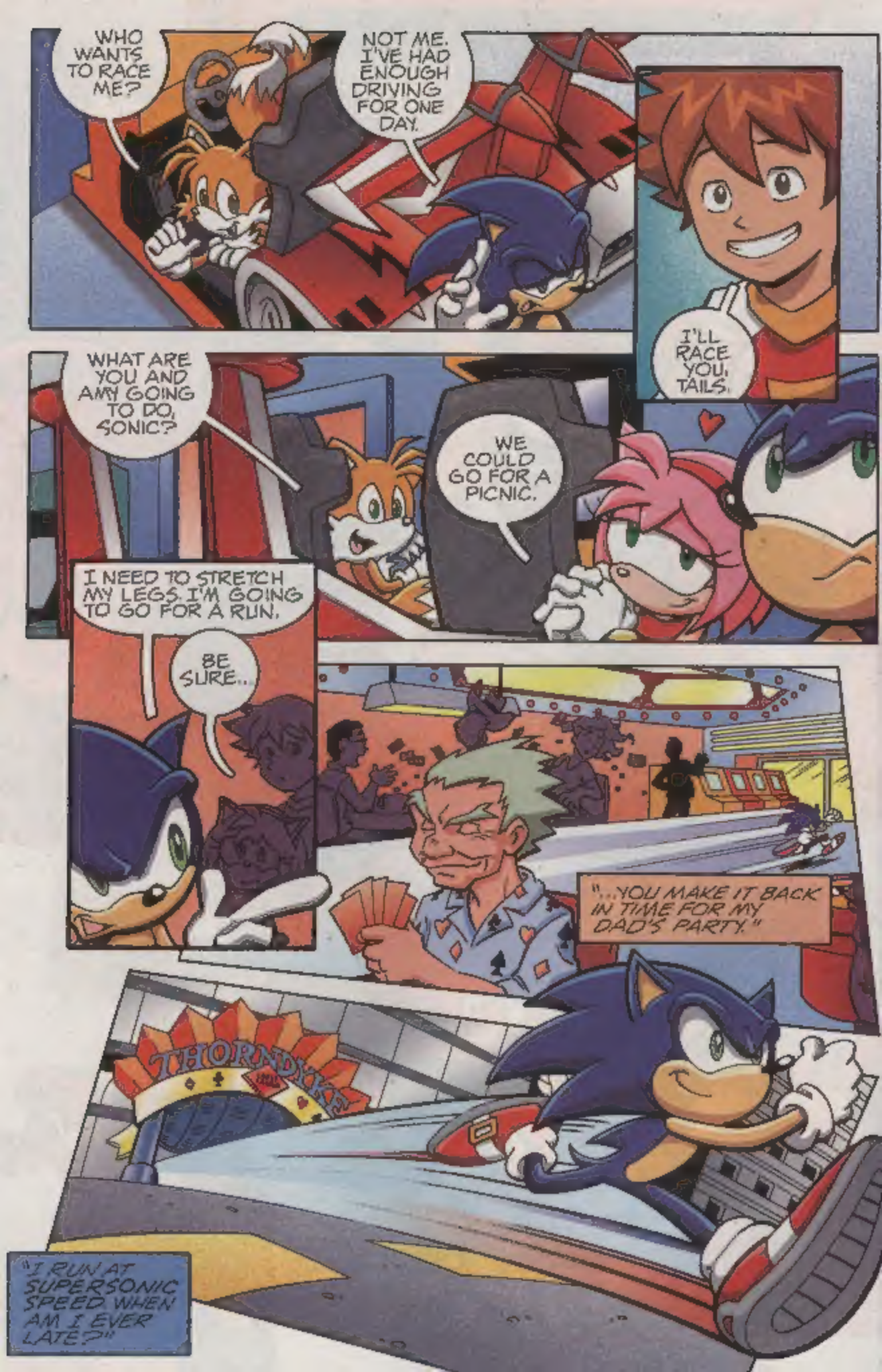
THORNDYKE
CREST CASINO
NOW... LET'S GET TO THE WAREHOUSE AND GET TO WORK!
THORNDYKE
CREST CASINO
WOW! THIS IS REALLY COOL, DAD!
WHO WOULD HAVE THOUGHT MY SON WOULD BUILD HIS OWN CASINO?
YOU KNOW HOW MUCH NELSON LIKES TO PLAY BLACKJACK, CHUCK.
THANK YOU FOR INVITING US, MISTER THORNDYKE.
YOU'RE WELCOME, AMY. WE'RE GOING TO HAVE A PARTY TO END ALL PARTIES FOR TOMORROW NIGHT'S GRAND OPENING.
ISN'T THIS GREAT, SONIC?
I GUESS SO, CHRIS. PERSONALLY-- I PREFER TO BE OUTSIDE WHERE I CAN RUN.
TAILS--YOU ARE GOING TO BE BLOWN AWAY BY THE TECHNOLOGY IN THE VIDEO ARCADE.
NELSON HAS CREATED A VIRTUAL REALITY RACE BASED ON MY BROTHER'S SPEED TEAM BACK IN STATION SQUARE.
I CAN'T WAIT TO TRY IT!

THE NEXT DAY, CHRIS, TAILS, AMY, AND SONIC HANG OUT IN THE CASINO'S ALL-AGES VIDEO ARCADE WHILE THE ADULTS PLAY POKER, BLACKJACK, AND ROULETTE ELSEWHERE IN THE HOTEL.
ISN'T THIS THE BEST ?!
ATOMIC SPINBALL
PINBALL WIZARD
I HATE PINBALL MACHINES!
BING BING
BING
SPEED TEAM RACING
INSERT COIN
INSERT COIN
COME ON, SONIC! LET'S TRY THE SPEED TEAM VIRTUAL RACING GAME MY FATHER CREATED. IT'LL BE FUN!
I'D RATHER HAVE A REAL ADVENTURE INSTEAD OF A VIRTUAL ONE. I WONDER...
...WHAT THAT ROTTEN EGG EGGMAN IS UP TO...

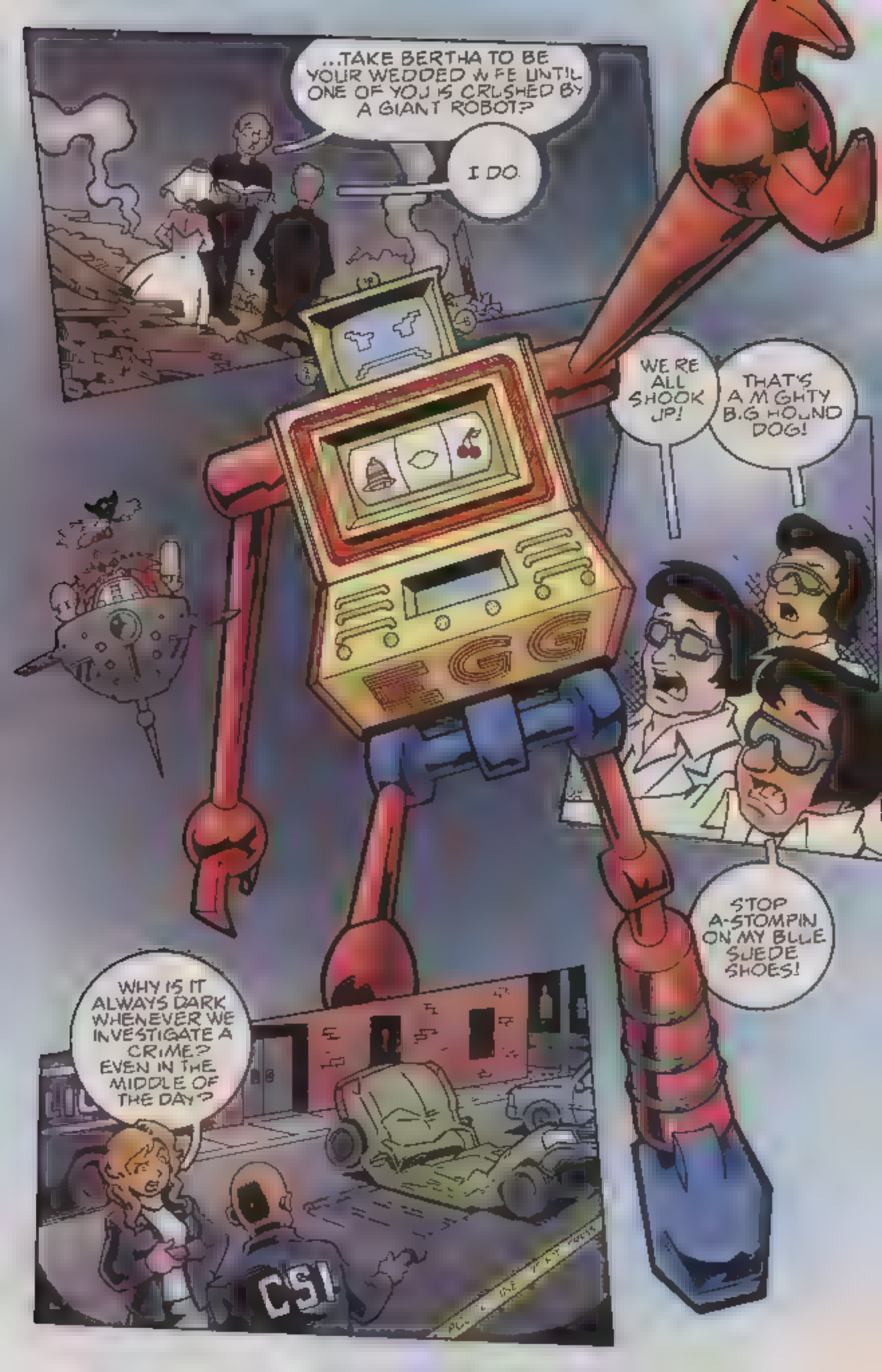
LET'S TURN OUR ATTENTION TO A WAREHOUSE AT THE EDGE OF THE CITY AND FIND OUT WHAT DR. EGGMAN IS UP TO... BUT DON'T TELL SONIC, OR IT WILL RUIN THE STORY!
NINCOMPOOPS! POUR THE CHERRIES INTO THE CHEST CAVITY!
THIS IS GOING TO BE THE BIGGEST CHERRY PIE EVER, DR. EGGMAN!
POUR
I LOVE CHERRY PIE!
WE'RE NOT MAKING A CHERRY PIE. WE'RE CREATING A DEADLY WEAPON! NOW CLOSE THE CHESTPLATE!
ALL OF LAS VEGAS WILL QUAKE IN FEAR BEFORE MY TWO-ARMED BANDIT!
HA HA HA HA HA HA

BACK AT THE VIDEO ARCADE...
READY ?
I GUESS SO...
ON YOUR MARK... GET SET...
GO!
WATCH OUT, SONIC!
I'M TRYING! WE DON'T HAVE CARS LIKE THESE ON MY WORLD!
CRASH
CHECKPO
RATS!
HURRY, SONIC! CHRIS IS ALMOST AT THE FINISH LINE!
I'D GO FASTER IF I COULD RUN!

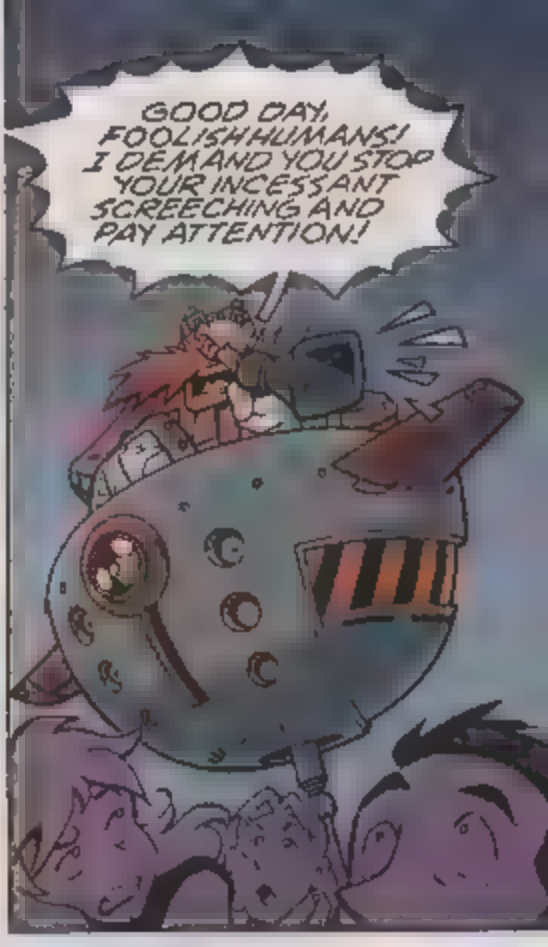

FINISH
YOU DID IT, CHRIS! YOU WON!
HOOYAH!
YOU WOULD NEVER HAVE WON IF IT WAS A REAL RACE!
HE WON FAIR AND SQUARE, AMY.
CONGRATULATIONS, BUDDY.
WELL, IF SONIC ISN'T UPSET, THEN NEITHER AM I.
YOU DID GREAT, CHRIS! MAYBE SOMEDAY YOU CAN TEACH ME HOW TO DRIVE.
I'LL HAVE TO GET MY LICENSE FIRST!

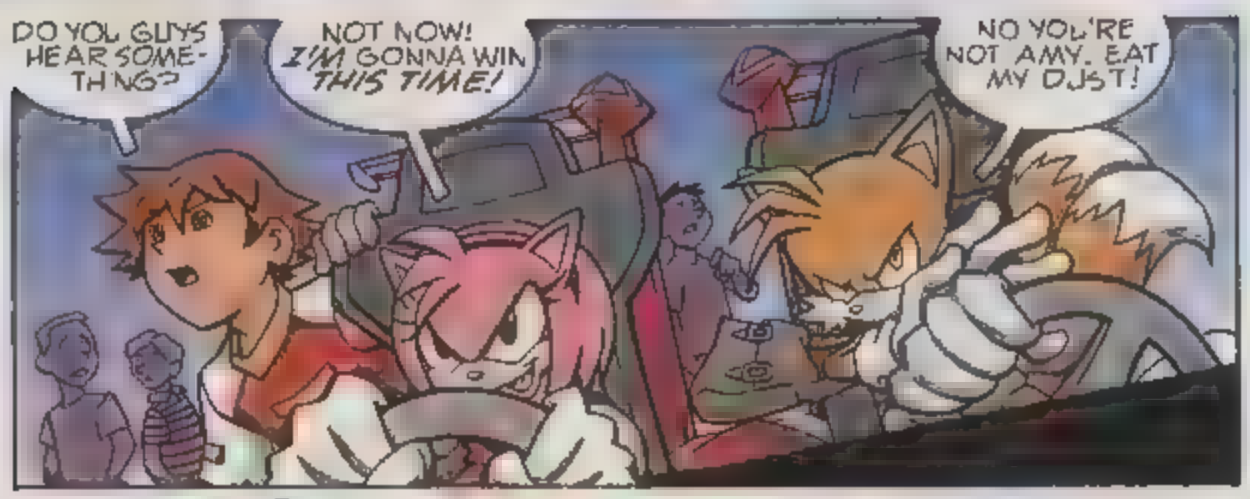

WHO WANTS TO RACE ME?
NOT ME. I'VE HAD ENOUGH DRIVING FOR ONE DAY.
I'LL RACE YOU, TAILS.
WHAT ARE YOU AND AMY GOING TO DO, SONIC?
WE COULD GO FOR A PICNIC.
I NEED TO STRETCH MY LEGS. I'M GOING TO GO FOR A RUN.
BE SURE..
"...YOU MAKE IT BACK IN TIME FOR MY DAD'S PARTY."
THORNDYKE
"I RUN AT SUPERSONIC SPEED. WHEN AM I EVER LATE?"

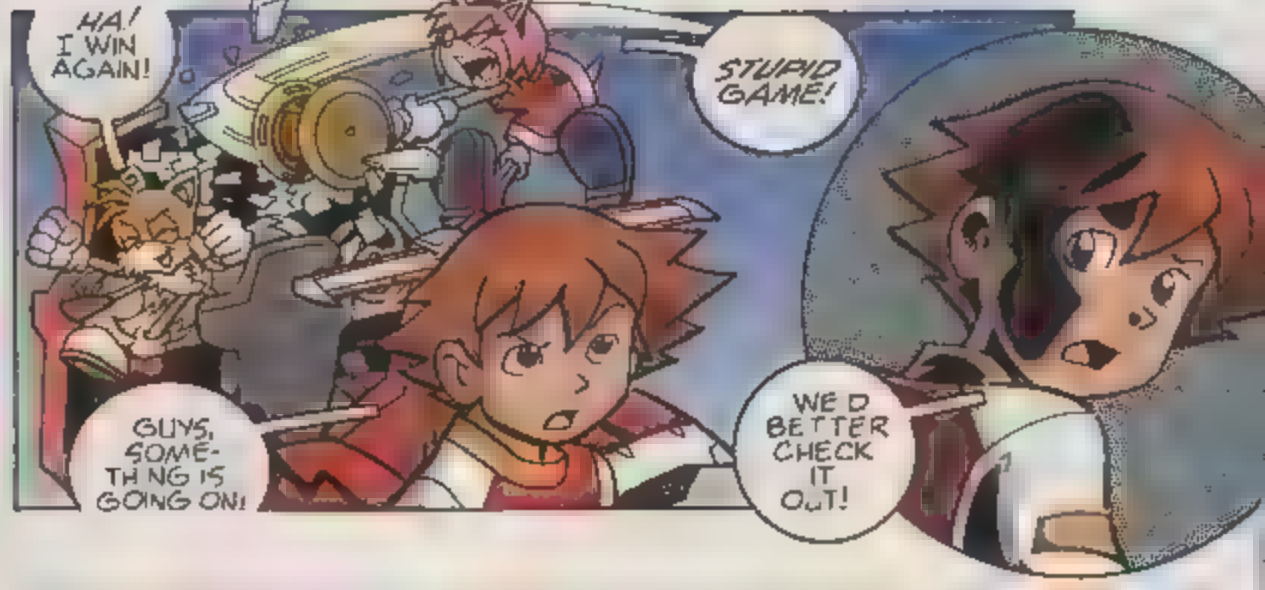
!
FORWARD, MY MINIONS!
TO USE THE VERNACULAR OF THIS STRANGE CITY...IT'S TIME TO ROLL THE DICE--
--CUZ DOCTOR EGGMAN NEEDS A NEW PAIR OF SHOES!
WHY DOES THE BOSS NEED SHOES?
WHAT'S A "VERNAC-ULAR"...?
WHY IS HE TALKING ABOUT HIMSELF IN THE THIRD PERSON?

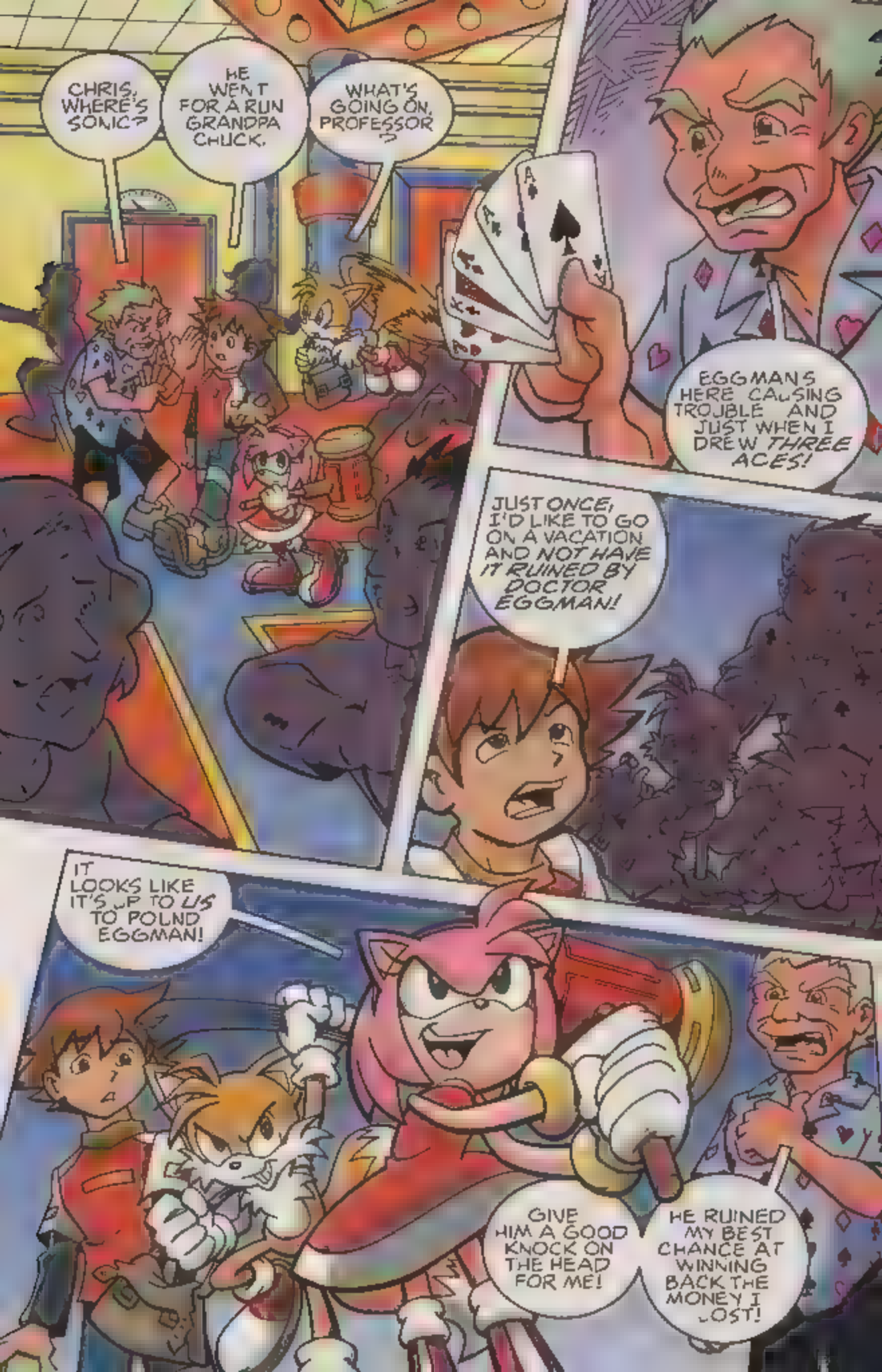

...TAKE BERTHA TO BE YOUR WEDDED WIFE UNTIL ONE OF YOU IS CRUSHED BY A GIANT ROBOT?
I DO.
WE'RE ALL SHOOK UP!
THAT'S A MIGHTY BIG HOUND DOG!
STOP A-STOMPIN ON MY BLUE SUEDE SHOES!
WHY IS IT ALWAYS DARK WHENEVER WE INVESTIGATE A CRIME? EVEN IN THE MIDDLE OF THE DAY?
CSI

EGG
LOOK AT THEM RUN AND SCREAM! THEY'LL STOP AND PAY ATTENTION WHEN I MAKE MY DEMANDS! HA HA HA HA HA HA HA!

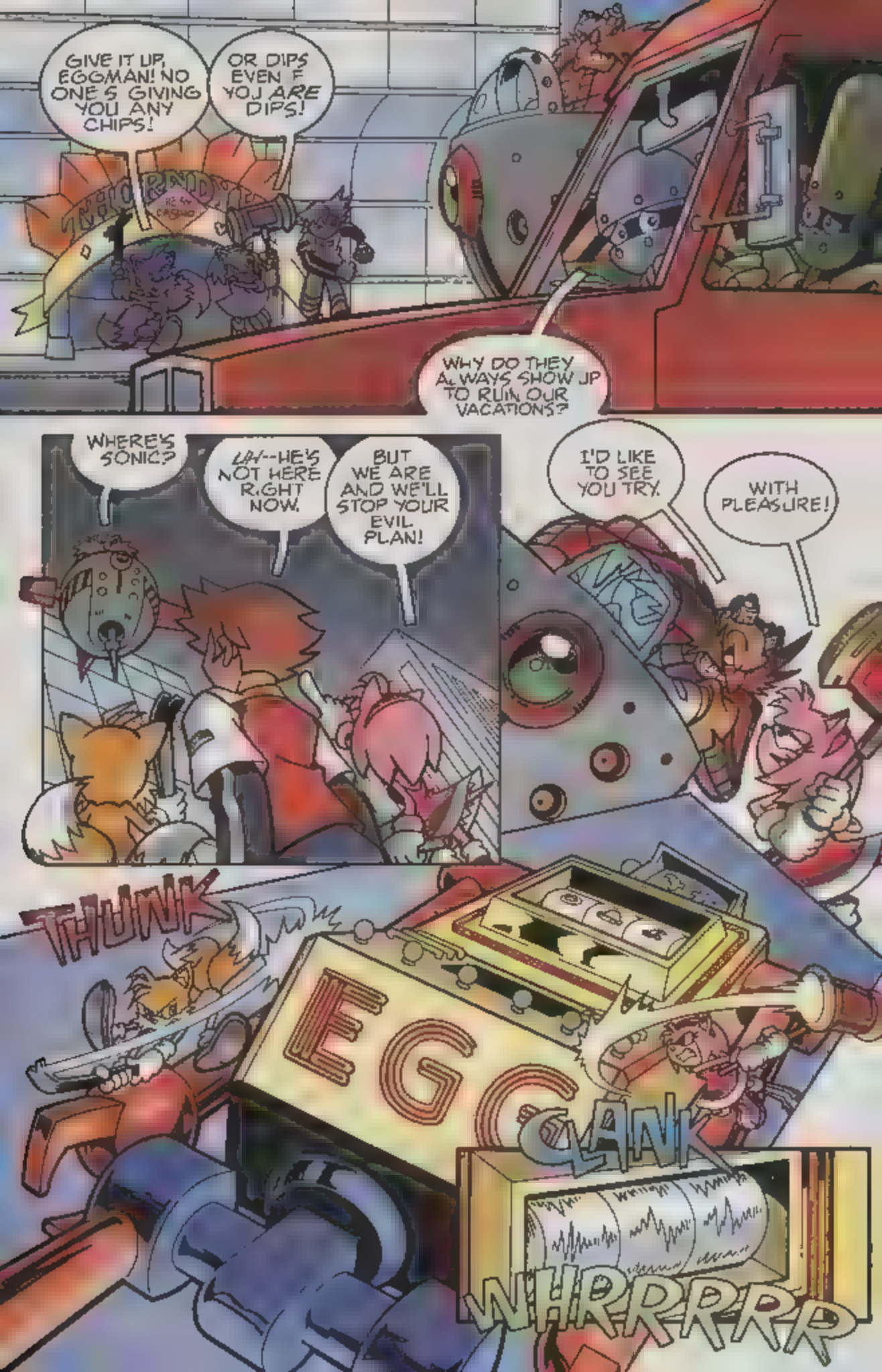

GOOD DAY, FOOLISH HUMANS! I DEMAND YOU STOP YOUR INCESSANT SCREECHING AND PAY ATTENTION!

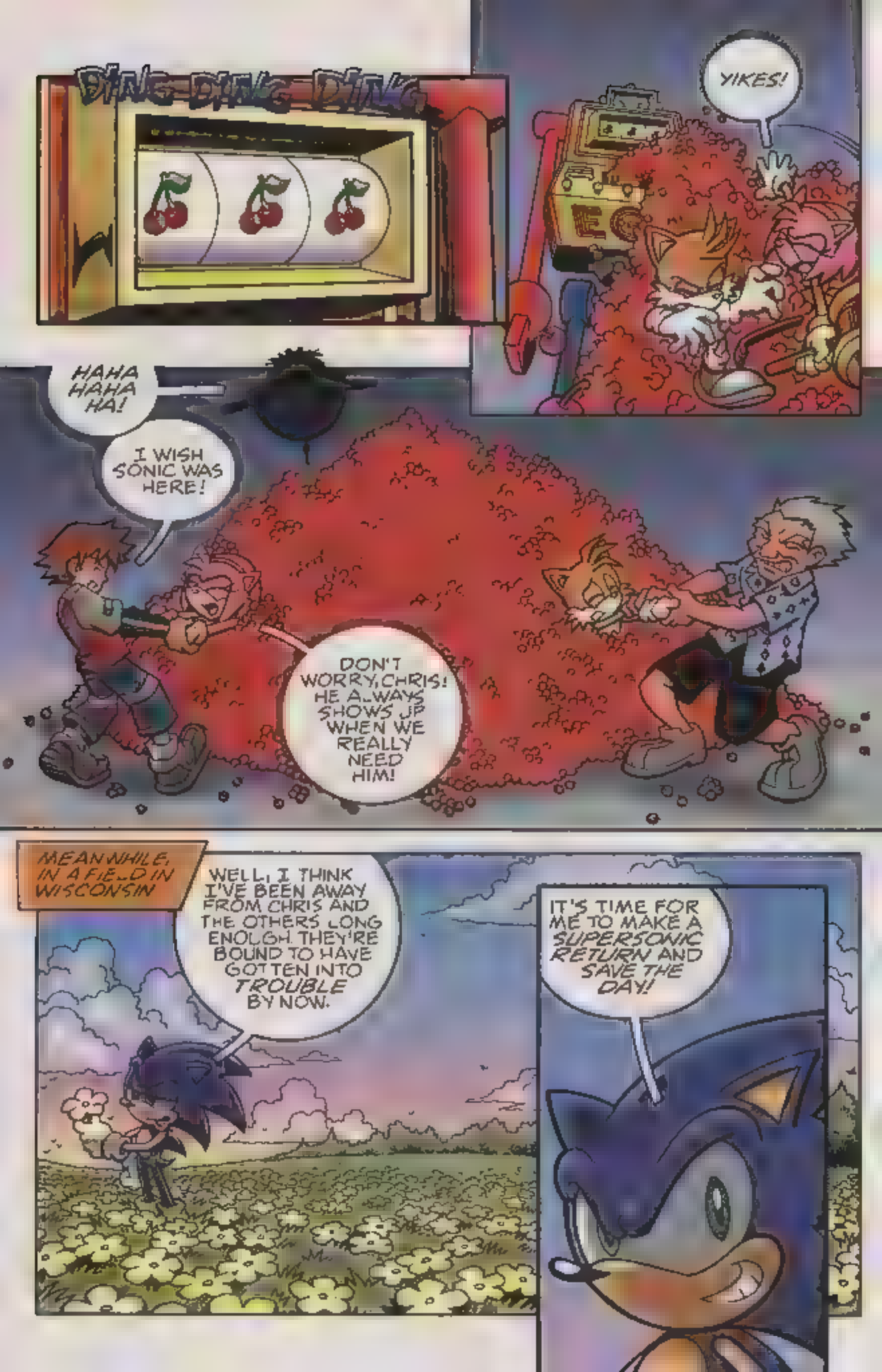

DO YOU GUYS HEAR SOMETHING?
NOT NOW! I'M GONNA WIN THIS TIME!
NO YOU'RE NOT AMY. EAT MY DUST!

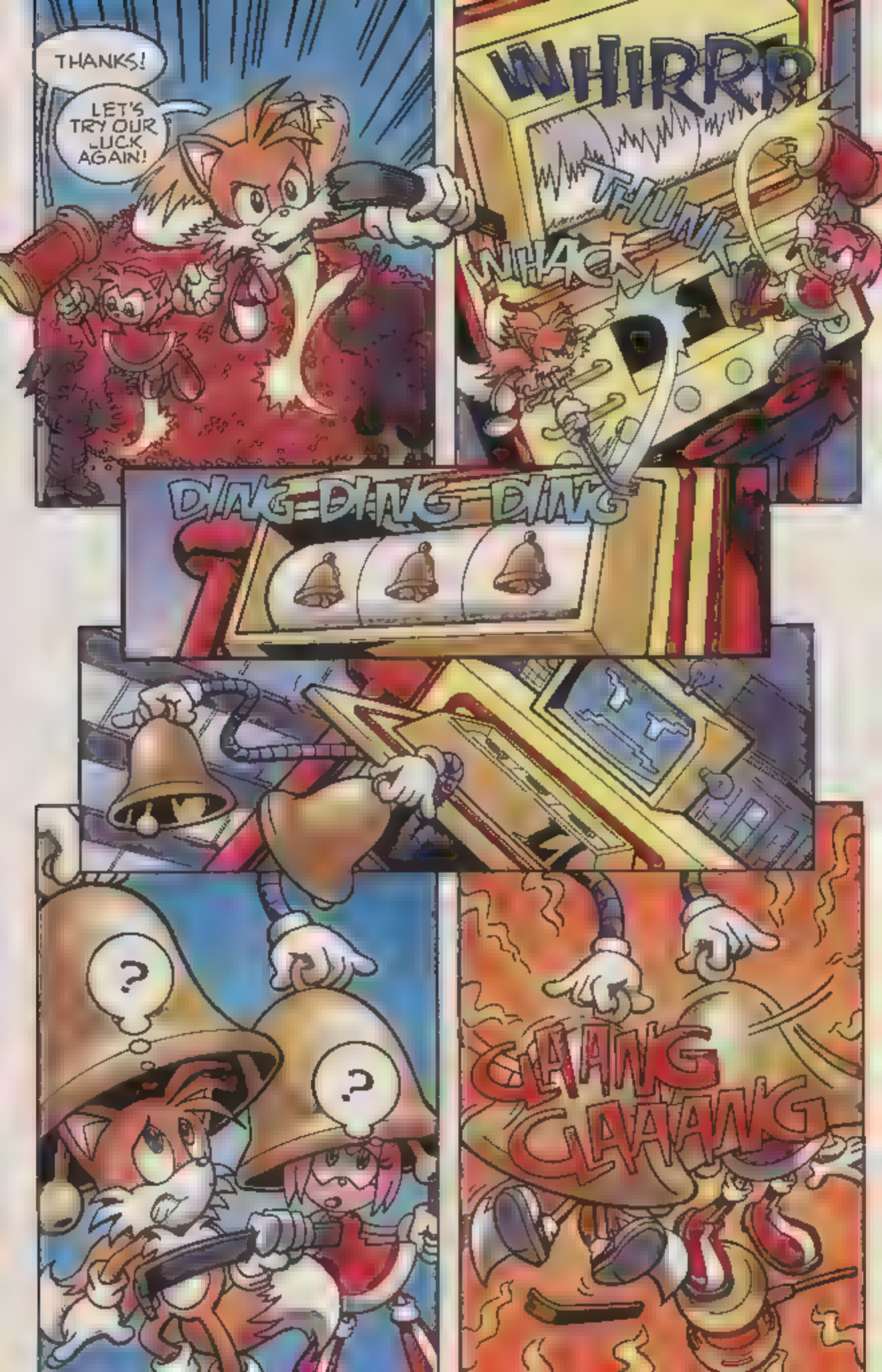

HA! I WIN AGAIN!
STUPID GAME!
GUYS, SOMETHING IS GOING ON!
WE'D BETTER CHECK IT OUT!


CHRIS, WHERE'S SONIC?
HE WENT FOR A RUN GRANDPA CHUCK.
WHAT'S GOING ON, PROFESSOR?
EGGMAN'S HERE CAUSING TROUBLE AND JUST WHEN I DREW THREE ACES!
JUST ONCE, I'D LIKE TO GO ON A VACATION AND NOT HAVE IT RUINED BY DOCTOR EGGMAN!
IT LOOKS LIKE IT'S UP TO US TO POUND EGGMAN!
GIVE HIM A GOOD KNOCK ON THE HEAD FOR ME!
HE RUINED MY BEST CHANCE AT WINNING BACK THE MONEY I LOST!

THEY'RE IGNORING YOU, DOCTOR EGGMAN
THE PEOPLE OF THIS PLANET ARE SO HIGH-STRUNG!
BUT DON'T WORRY. I'LL SOON GET THEIR ATTENTION
SHOW THEM WHAT YOU CAN DO, MY PRETTY!
EEP!
NOW THAT I HAVE YOUR UNDIVIDED ATTENTION, LET US GET DOWN TO BUSINESS!
UNLESS YOU WANT THIS ENTIRE CITY TO LOOK LIKE THAT BUS..
...YOU WILL FILL THIS TRUCK WITH EVERY POKER CHIP YOU CAN FIND!
YOU HAVE ONE HOUR TO MEET MY DEMANDS...
OR ELSE YOUR PAYOUT WILL BE PAIN!


GIVE IT UP, EGGMAN! NO ONE'S GIVING YOU ANY CHIPS!
OR DIPS EVEN IF YOU ARE DIPS!
WHY DO THEY ALWAYS SHOW UP TO RUIN OUR VACATIONS?
WHERE'S SONIC?
UH--HE'S NOT HERE RIGHT NOW.
BUT WE ARE AND WE'LL STOP YOUR EVIL PLAN!
I'D LIKE TO SEE YOU TRY.
WITH PLEASURE!
THUNK
EGG
CLANK
WHRRRRRP


DING DING DING
YIKES!
HAHA HAHA HA!
I WISH SONIC WAS HERE!
DON'T WORRY, CHRIS! HE ALWAYS SHOWS UP WHEN WE REALLY NEED HIM!
MEANWHILE, IN A FIELD IN WISCONSIN
WELL, I THINK I'VE BEEN AWAY FROM CHRIS AND THE OTHERS LONG ENOUGH. THEY'RE BOUND TO HAVE GOTTEN INTO TROUBLE BY NOW.
IT'S TIME FOR ME TO MAKE A SUPERSONIC RETURN AND SAVE THE DAY!


THANKS!
LET'S TRY OUR LUCK AGAIN!
WHIRRR
THUNK
WHACK
DING-DING-DING
?
?
CLANG
CLAAANG

YOU'RE NOT SO TOUGH WHEN SONIC'S NOT AROUND!
THUD
WHAM
LET'S STOMP OUT THIS RESISTANCE SO WE CAN GET BACK TO COLLECTING OUR CHIPS!
THIS WOULD BE A GOOD TIME FOR SONIC TO GET BACK!
HAVE FAITH, TAILS. SONIC WON'T LET US DOWN
HI, GUYS! MISS ME?
SPIN!
OH, FOO! I KNEW IT WAS TOO GOOD TO BE TRUE!

POW
POW
POW
WHIRRRR
DING-DING-DING
SPLOOSH
YUM! LEMONADE!
PPPPP TTFF!!!
YUCK! I HATE GETTING WET!
SHEESH, SONIC. YOU STINK WHEN YOUR BLUE COAT GETS WET!!!
THAT'S IT, EGGMAN! YOU'RE TOAST!

YOU THINK I'M NOT PREPARED.

GRAB SONIC, MY PRETTY!

TO PROTECT MYSELF?

SONIC.. CATCH!

THANKS, BLOODY! I COULD REALLY USE A *POWER RING* RIGHT NOW.

LEAVE MY BOY-FRIEND ALONE, YOU TIN BULLY!

CLANG!

HERE IT COMES!

WHIRRRR

DING DING DING

HAHA HAHAHA HAHAHA HAHAHA HAHA!
WHICH ONE'S MY POWER RING?
I DON'T KNOW.
THEY ALL LOOK THE SAME.
WE'LL HAVE TO DO THIS OLD SCHOOL!
WE'LL BEAT THE TAR OUT OF THE ROBOT FROM ALL SIDES!
CRASH
THUD
BAM
POW
WHACK

CRASH!
THUD
BAM!
POW
WHIRRR
DING
DING
DING
CRASH!
EGG
TILT
GAME'S OVER, EGGMAN, AND YOU LOSE!
MY LUCK RAN OUT THIS TIME, SONIC, BUT I'LL BE BACK!

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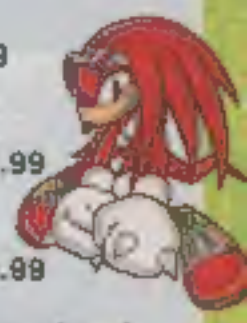

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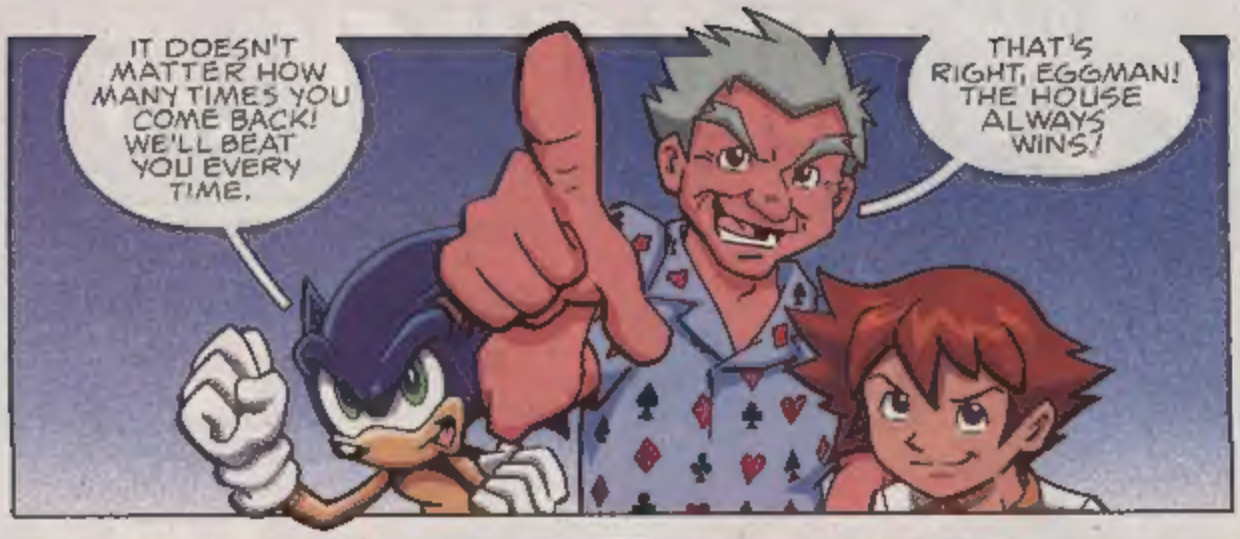

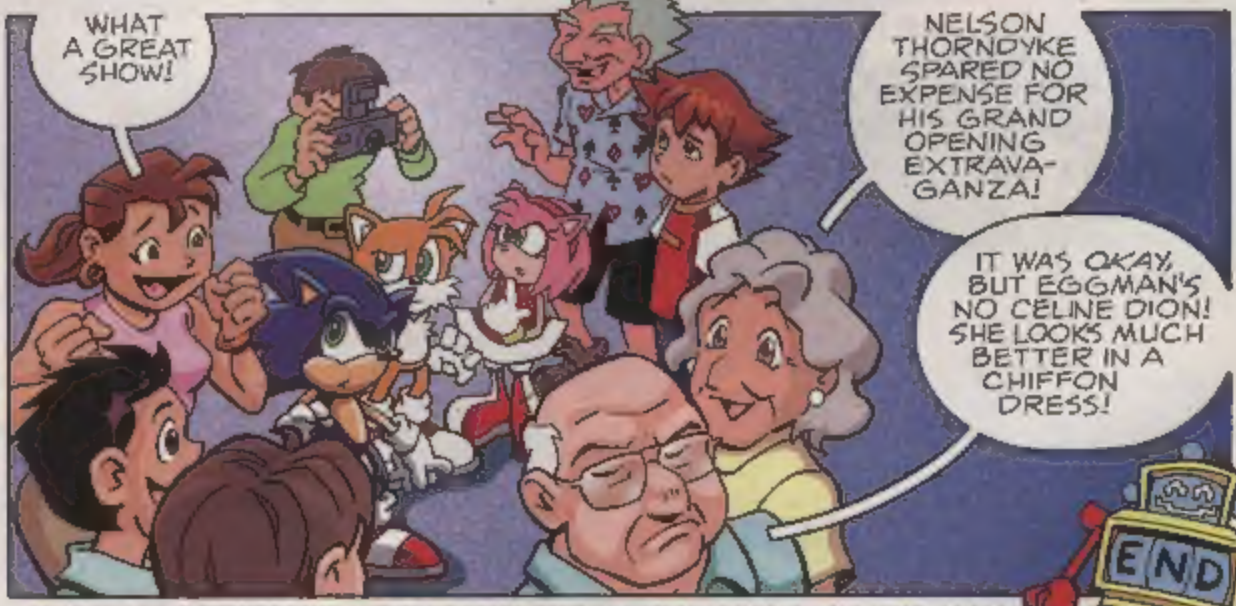

END

NEXT IN SONIC X # 20 SONIC IS IN THE RACE OF HIS LIFE! THEN IN SONIC THE HEDGEHOG #175 - SONIC VS. EGGMAN IN THE ULTIMATE BATTLE. NOTHING WILL EVER BE THE SAME AGAIN!

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